

JAMES F. O'BRYON, Deputy Director, Operational Test & Evaluation, Live Fire Testing, Pentagon, Office of the Secretary of Defense

Jim currently serves as Deputy Director for Operational Test & Evaluation / Live Fire Test, a Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense position. The Director, OT&E, reports directly to the Secretary of Defense, Mr. Rumsfeld. Jim began his work in the Pentagon as a member of the Senior Executive Service in November 1986 as Assistant Deputy Undersecretary of Defense, Live Fire Testing, a position created in response to an act of Congress. The legislation requires realistic Live Fire Testing be performed on our major conventional weapons and an independent Live Fire Test Report be submitted to the Congress before these systems enter full-rate production. Since arriving at the Pentagon, Jim has also served within the Office of the Secretary of Defense as Deputy Director, Test and Evaluation; as Director, Live Fire Testing and as Director, Weapon Systems Assessment. Jim also oversees the JTCG/ME and JTCG/AS Programs of the DoD.



Jim has more than 25 years of leadership experience in weapon system technology and survivability, and has testified on several occasions before the US Congress on weapons acquisition and testing.

Mr. O'Bryon's technical experience includes work in the Biophysics Department at IBM's Thomas J. Watson Research Center, the Actuarial Department at the home office of New York Life Insurance Company, the Ballistic Research Laboratories, the Army Materiel Systems Analysis Activity at Aberdeen and, since 1986, for the Office of the Secretary of Defense at the Pentagon.

Born in Schenectady, NY, Jim O'Bryon received his undergraduate degree in Mathematics. He also has graduate degrees from George Washington University in Operations Research / Management Science and from MIT through the Electrical Engineering Department. He was drafted into the Army in 1964 during the early Viet Nam buildup and served 2 years in uniform.

Jim is also involved in many other activities less technical than these. He's a songwriter and recording artist with 4 albums and has been a vocalist and instrumentalist at various church and community functions many years. He has an active concert schedule and is a conference speaker on mathematics, education, music and the patent/copyright system. He's also built his own harpsichord. Jim has worked as a radio announcer and newscaster for WRBS in Baltimore for 15 years and as music director in churches in 3 states. He serves on the Boards of a charitable trust in Connecticut, a seminary in New York, a Foundation in Colorado and is an active member of the MIT Education Council.

Mr. O'Bryon has authored over 60 technical publications and owns several copyrights. His honors include the NDIA Gold Medal, Who's Who in America, Outstanding Young Men in America, Sigma Xi, and he's a Distinguished Lecturer at the Defense Systems Management College, and at the Center for Professional Development at University of Texas. He is also a Fellow of the Center for Advanced Engineering Study at MIT and is Chairman of the T&E Division of the National Defense Industrial Assn, and member of MORS, ITEA, AIAA, and AOC. Jim and his wife Adina live in Bel Air, MD. They have 4 children.

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